

AF 12832



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re the Application of: SHINOZAKI, Hiroyuki

Serial No.: 09/875,134

Filed: June 7, 2001

Corres. and Mail

BOX AF

Group Art Unit: 2834

Examiner: P. CUEVAS

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 7666

For: **SEMICONDUCTOR SUBSTRATE HOLDER ROTATING APPARATUS HAVING MAGNETIC BEARINGS.**

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116

**- EXPEDITED RESPONSE -
GROUP ART UNIT 2834**

BOX AF

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

April 23, 2003

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated **January 23, 2003**, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please AMEND the paragraph beginning on line 14, page 14 of the current Specification to read as follows:

Fig. 12 illustrates an exemplary structure for improving the rigidity of the passive control axes (passive stability axes), i.e., translation in the Z-axis direction, θ_y gradient, and θ_x gradient. Here, a permanent magnet 22 is disposed at an inner peripheral end of the top surface of the stator